

# A determinant formula for relative congruence zeta functions for cyclotomic function fields

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## Abstract

In the paper [Ro], Rosen gave a determinant formula for relative class numbers for the  $P$ -th cyclotomic function fields in the case of the monic irreducible polynomial  $P$ , which is regarded as an analogue of the classical Maillet determinant. In this paper, we will give a determinant formula for the relative congruence zeta functions for cyclotomic function fields. Our formula is regarded as a generalization of the determinant formula for the relative class number.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $h_p^-$  be the relative class number of cyclotomic field of  $p$ -th root of unity. In the paper [C-O], Carlitz and Olson computed the number  $h_p^-$  in terms of a certain classical determinant, which is known as the Maillet determinant.

In the cyclotomic function field case, several authors gave an analogue of Maillet determinants.

Let  $k$  be a field of rational functions over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  with  $q$  elements. Fix a generator  $T$  of  $k$ , and let  $A = \mathbb{F}_q[T]$  be the polynomial subring of  $k$ . Let  $m$  be a monic polynomial of  $A$ , and  $\Lambda_m$  be the set of all of  $m$ -torsion points of the Carlitz module. The field  $K_m$  obtained by adding the points of  $\Lambda_m$  to  $k$  is called the  $m$ -th cyclotomic function field. For the definition of Carlitz module and basic facts of cyclotomic function fields, see Section 2

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below. Let  $K_m^+$  be the decomposition field of the infinite prime of  $k$  in  $K_m/k$ , which is called the “maximal real subfield” in  $K_m$ .

Let  $h_m, h_m^+$  be orders of the divisor class group of degree 0 for  $K_m$ , and  $K_m^+$ , respectively. Define the relative class number  $h_m^-$  of  $K_m$  by  $h_m^- = h_m/h_m^+$ .

Rosen gave a determinant formula for  $h_P^-$  in the case of the monic irreducible polynomial  $P$  (cf. [Ro]), which is regarded as an analogue of the Maillet determinant. Recently, several authors generalized the Rosen’s formula and gave class number formulas. (cf. [B-K], [A-C-J]).

Let  $\zeta(s, K_m)$  be the congruence zeta function for  $K_m$ . The function  $\zeta(s, K_m)$  can be expressed by

$$\zeta(s, K_m) = \frac{P_m(q^{-s})}{(1 - q^{-s})(1 - q^{1-s})},$$

where  $P_m(X)$  is a polynomial with integral coefficients. Then we have the decomposition  $P_m(X) = P_m^{(+)}(X)P_m^{(-)}(X)$ , where  $P_m^{(+)}(X)$  is the polynomial corresponding to the congruence zeta function  $\zeta(s, K_m^+)$  for  $K_m^+$ . On the polynomial  $P_m^{(+)}(X)$ , the author gave the determinant formula in the paper [Sh]. We see that  $P_m^{(-)}(q^{-s}) = \zeta(s, K_m)/\zeta(s, K_m^+)$ , which is called the relative congruence zeta function for  $K_m$ .

The main result of the present paper is to give the determinant formula for  $P_m^{(-)}(X)$ . Since  $P_m^{(-)}(1) = h_m^-$ , our formula is regarded as a generalization of the determinant formula for the relative class number.

As an application of our determinant formula, we will give an explicit formula for some coefficients of low degree terms for  $P_m^{(-)}(X)$ .

## 2 Basic facts

In this section, we will provide several basic facts of cyclotomic function fields and its zeta functions. For the proof of these facts, see [G-R], [Ro 2], [Wa].

### 2.1 Cyclotomic function fields

Let  $K^{ac}$  be the algebraic closure of  $k$ . For  $x \in K^{ac}$  and  $m \in A$ , we define the following action:

$$m \cdot x = m(\varphi + \mu)(x), \tag{1}$$

where  $\varphi, \mu$  are  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -linear maps of  $K^{ac}$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi : K^{ac} &\longrightarrow K^{ac} & (x \mapsto x^q), \\ \mu : K^{ac} &\longrightarrow K^{ac} & (x \mapsto T \cdot x).\end{aligned}$$

By the above action,  $K^{ac}$  becomes a  $A$ -module, which is called the Carlitz module. Let  $\Lambda_m$  be the set of all  $x$  satisfying  $m \cdot x = 0$ , which is a cyclic sub- $A$ -module of  $K^{ac}$ . Fix a generator  $\lambda_m$  of  $\Lambda_m$ . Then we have the following isomorphism of  $A$ -modules

$$A/(m) \longrightarrow \Lambda_m \quad (a \bmod m \mapsto a \cdot \lambda_m), \quad (2)$$

where  $(m) = mA$  is principal ideal generated by  $m$ . Let  $(A/(m))^\times$  be the unit group of  $A/(m)$ , and  $\Phi(m)$  be the order of  $(A/(m))^\times$ . Let  $K_m$  be the field obtained by adding elements of  $\Lambda_m$  to  $k$ . We call  $K_m$  the  $m$ -th cyclotomic function field. The extension  $K_m/k$  is an abelian extension, and we get the following isomorphism

$$(A/(m))^\times \longrightarrow \text{Gal}(K_m/k) \quad (a \bmod m \mapsto \sigma_{a \bmod m}) \quad (3)$$

where  $\text{Gal}(K_m/k)$  is the Galois group of  $K_m/k$ , and  $\sigma_{a \bmod m}$  is the isomorphism given by  $\sigma_{a \bmod m}(\lambda_m) = a \cdot \lambda_m$ . By using the above isomorphism, we find that the extension degree of  $K_m/k$  is  $\Phi(m)$ .

We see that  $\mathbb{F}_q^\times$  is contained in  $(A/(m))^\times$ . Let  $K_m^+$  be the subfield of  $K_m$  corresponding to  $\mathbb{F}_q^\times$ . Again by the isomorphism (3), we find that the extension degree of  $K_m^+/k$  is  $\Phi(m)/(q-1)$ . Let  $P_\infty$  be the unique prime of  $k$  which corresponds to the valuation  $v_\infty$  with  $v_\infty(T) < 0$ . The prime  $P_\infty$  splits completely in  $K_m^+/k$ , and any prime of  $K_m^+$  over  $P_\infty$  is totally ramified in  $K_m/K_m^+$ . Hence  $K_m^+ = K_m \cap k_\infty$  where  $k_\infty$  is the completion of  $k$  by  $v_\infty$ . The field  $K_m^+$  is called the maximal real subfield of  $K_m$ , which is an analogue of maximal real subfields of cyclotomic fields.

Next, we provide basic facts about Dirichlet characters. For a monic polynomial  $m \in A$ , let  $X_m$  be the group of all primitive Dirichlet characters of  $(A/(m))^\times$ . Let  $X_m^+$  be the set of characters contained in  $X_m$  such that  $\chi(a) = 1$  for any  $a \in \mathbb{F}_q^\times$ . Put

$$\tilde{K} = \bigcup_{m:\text{monic}} K_m \quad (4)$$

where  $m$  runs through all monic polynomials of  $A$ . Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be the group of all primitive Dirichlet characters. By the same argument as in Chapter 3

in [Wa], we have a one-to-one correspondence between finite subgroups of  $\mathbb{D}$  and finite subextension fields of  $\tilde{K}/k$ . The following theorem is useful to obtain the information of primes.

**Theorem 2.1.** (cf. [Wa], Theorem 3.7.) *Let  $X$  be a finite subgroup of  $\mathbb{D}$ , and  $K_X$  the associated field. For a irreducible monic polynomial  $P \in A$ , put*

$$Y = \{\chi \in X \mid \chi(P) \neq 0\}, \quad Z = \{\chi \in X \mid \chi(P) = 1\}.$$

*Then, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} X/Y &\simeq \text{the inertia group of } P \text{ of } K_X/k, \\ Y/Z &\simeq \text{the cyclic group of order } f_P, \\ X/Z &\simeq \text{the decomposition group of } P \text{ for } K_X/k, \end{aligned}$$

*where  $f_P$  is the residue class degree of  $P$  in  $K_X/k$ .*

## 2.2 The relative congruence zeta function

Our next task is to investigate the congruence zeta function for cyclotomic function fields.

Let  $K$  be the geometric extension of  $k$  of finite degree. We define the congruence zeta function of  $K$  by

$$\zeta(s, K) = \prod_{\mathcal{P}:\text{prime}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}\mathcal{P}^s}\right)^{-1} \quad (5)$$

where  $\mathcal{P}$  runs through all primes of  $K$ , and  $\mathcal{N}\mathcal{P}$  is the number of elements of the reduce class field of a prime  $\mathcal{P}$ . We see that  $\zeta(s, K)$  converges absolutely for  $\text{Re}(s) > 1$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $g_K$  be the genus of  $K$  and  $h_K$  be the order of divisor class group of degree 0. Then, there is a polynomial  $P_K(X) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$  of degree  $2g_K$  satisfying*

$$\zeta(s, K) = \frac{P_K(q^{-s})}{(1 - q^{-s})(1 - q^{1-s})}, \quad (6)$$

*and  $P_K(0) = 1$ ,  $P_K(1) = h_K$ .*

Since the right-handside of equation (6) is meromorphic on the whole of  $\mathbb{C}$ , this equation provides the analytic continuation of  $\zeta(s, K)$  to the whole of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Next, we explain the zeta function of  $\mathcal{O}_K$ , which is the integral closure of  $A$  in the field  $K$ . We define the zeta function  $\zeta(s, \mathcal{O}_K)$  for the ring  $\mathcal{O}_K$  by

$$\zeta(s, \mathcal{O}_K) = \prod_{\mathcal{P}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}\mathcal{P}^s}\right)^{-1} \quad (7)$$

where the product runs over all primes of  $\mathcal{O}_K$ .

Let  $X$  be a finite subgroup of  $\mathcal{D}$ , and  $K_X$  be the associated field. By the same argument as in the case of number fields (cf. [Wa]), we have the following decomposition by  $L$ -functions

$$\zeta(s, \mathcal{O}_{K_X}) = \prod_{\chi \in X} L(s, \chi) \quad (8)$$

where the  $L$ -function is defined by  $L(s, \chi) = \prod_P \left(1 - \frac{\chi(P)}{\mathcal{N}P^s}\right)^{-1}$  with  $P$  running through all monic irreducible polynomials of  $A$ .

Let  $f_\infty, g_\infty$  be the residue class degree of  $P_\infty$  in  $K_X/k$ , and the number of prime in  $K_X$  over  $P_\infty$ , respectively. Then we have

$$\zeta(s, K_X) = \zeta(s, \mathcal{O}_{K_X})(1 - q^{-sf_\infty})^{-g_\infty}. \quad (9)$$

From now on, we will focus on cyclotomic function field case. For a monic polynomial  $m \in A$ , let  $K_m, K_m^+$  be the  $m$ -th cyclotomic function field and its maximal real subfield. The relative congruence zeta function  $\zeta^{(-)}(s, K_m)$  is defined by

$$\zeta^{(-)}(s, K_m) = \frac{\zeta(s, K_m)}{\zeta(s, K_m^+)}. \quad (10)$$

By Theorem 2.2, there are polynomials  $P_m(X), P_m^{(+)}(X)$  with integral coefficients such that

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(s, K_m) &= \frac{P_m(q^{-s})}{(1 - q^{-s})(1 - q^{1-s})}, \\ \zeta(s, K_m^+) &= \frac{P_m^{(+)}(q^{-s})}{(1 - q^{-s})(1 - q^{1-s})}. \end{aligned}$$

Put  $P_m^{(-)}(X) = P_m(X)/P_m^{(+)}(X)$ , then we have

$$\zeta^{(-)}(s, K_m) = P_m^{(-)}(q^{-s}). \quad (11)$$

Notice that the fields  $K_m, K_m^+$  associate to  $X_m, X_m^+$ , respectively. Since any prime in  $K_m^+$  above  $P_\infty$  is totally ramified in  $K_m/K_m^+$ , we have

$$P_m^{(-)}(q^{-s}) = \prod_{\chi \in X_m^-} L(s, \chi) \quad (12)$$

where  $X_m^- = X_m - X_m^+$ .

The  $L$ -function associated to the non-trivial character can be expressed by the polynomial of  $q^{-s}$  with complex coefficients. Hence we see that  $P_m^{(-)}(X)$  is the polynomial with integral coefficients.

### 3 The determinant formula for $P_m^{(-)}(X)$

In the previous section, we defined the relative congruence zeta function  $\zeta^{(-)}(s, K_m)$  for the  $m$ -th cyclotomic function field, and we showed that  $\zeta(s, K_m)$  is expressed by the polynomial  $P_m^{(-)}(X)$  with integral coefficients. The goal of this section is to give a determinant formula for  $P_m^{(-)}(X)$ . First, we will prepare some notations to construct the determinant formula.

Let  $m$  be a monic polynomial of degree  $d$ . For  $\alpha \in (A/(m))^\times$ , there is a unique element of  $r_\alpha \in A$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} r_\alpha &= a_n T^n + a_{n-1} T^{n-1} + \cdots + a_0 \quad (n = \deg r_\alpha < d), \\ r_\alpha &\equiv \alpha \pmod{m}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\deg f$  denotes the degree of the polynomial  $f$ . Then we define

$$\text{Deg}(\alpha) = n, \quad L(\alpha) = a_n \in \mathbb{F}_q^\times$$

and  $c^\lambda(\alpha) = \lambda^{-1}(L(\alpha))$  for the character  $\lambda$  of  $\mathbb{F}_q^\times$ . Put  $N_m = \Phi(m)/(q-1)$ . Let  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{N_m}$  be all of the elements of  $(A/(m))^\times$  with  $L(\alpha) = 1$ , which are the complete system of representatives for  $\mathcal{R}_m = (A/(m))^\times / \mathbb{F}_q^\times$ . We put

$$\begin{aligned} c_{ij}^\lambda &= c^\lambda(\alpha_i \alpha_j^{-1}) \quad (i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N_m), \\ d_{ij} &= \text{Deg}(\alpha_i \alpha_j^{-1}) \quad (i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N_m). \end{aligned}$$

For any character  $\lambda$  of  $\mathbb{F}_q^\times$ , we define the matrix

$$D_m^{(\lambda)}(X) = (c_{ij}^\lambda X^{d_{ij}})_{i,j=1,2,\dots,N_m}.$$

The following matrix plays an essential role in our argument

$$D_m^{(-)}(X) = \prod_{\lambda \neq 1} D_m^{(\lambda)}(X) \quad (13)$$

where the product runs over all non-trivial characters of  $\mathbb{F}_q^\times$ . Notice that  $d_{ij} > 0$  in the case  $i \neq j$ , and  $d_{ij} = 0$ ,  $c_{ij}^\lambda = 1$  in the case  $i = j$ . Thus  $D_m^{(-)}(0)$  is the unit matrix. To state the main result, we prepare the polynomial  $J_m^{(-)}(X)$  defined by

$$J_m^{(-)}(X) = \prod_{\chi \in X_m^-} \prod_{Q|m} (1 - \chi(Q) X^{\deg Q}) \quad (14)$$

where  $Q$  is an irreducible monic polynomial dividing  $m$ . To begin with, we prove the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.1.** *In the above notations, we have*

$$J_m^{(-)}(X) = \prod_{Q|m} \frac{(1 - X^{f_Q \deg Q})^{g_Q}}{(1 - X^{f_Q^+ \deg Q})^{g_Q^+}} \quad (15)$$

where  $f_Q, f_Q^+$  are the residue class degrees of  $Q$  in  $K_m/k, K_m^+/k$  respectively, and  $g_Q, g_Q^+$  are the numbers of primes in  $K_m, K_m^+$  respectively over  $Q$ .

*Proof.* Notice that  $X_m, X_m^+$  associate to the  $m$ -th cyclotomic function field  $K_m$ , and its maximal real subfield  $K_m^+$  respectively. Let  $Q$  be an irreducible monic polynomial dividing  $m$ . Put

$$Y_Q = \{ \chi \in X_m \mid \chi(Q) \neq 0 \}, \quad Z_Q = \{ \chi \in X_m \mid \chi(Q) = 1 \}.$$

From Theorem 2.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{\chi \in X_m} (1 - \chi(Q) X^{\deg Q}) &= \prod_{\chi \in Y_Q} (1 - \chi(Q) X^{\deg Q}) \\ &= \prod_{\chi \in Y_Q/Z_Q} \prod_{\psi \in Z_Q} (1 - \chi\psi(Q) X^{\deg Q}) \\ &= \left( \prod_{\chi \in Y_Q/Z_Q} (1 - \chi(Q) X^{\deg Q}) \right)^{g_Q}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $Y_Q/Z_Q$  is a cyclic group of order  $f_Q$ , we have

$$\prod_{\chi \in Y_Q/Z_Q} (1 - \chi(Q)X^{\deg Q}) = (1 - X^{f_Q \deg Q}).$$

Hence we obtain

$$\prod_{\chi \in X_m} (1 - \chi(Q)X^{\deg Q}) = (1 - X^{f_Q \deg Q})^{g_Q}. \quad (16)$$

By the same argument, we have

$$\prod_{\chi \in X_m^+} (1 - \chi(Q)X^{\deg Q}) = (1 - X^{f_Q^+ \deg Q})^{g_Q^+}. \quad (17)$$

Noting that  $X_m^- = X_m - X_m^+$ , we can get the proposition from the above equations (16), (17).  $\square$

There are several consequences of this proposition. First of all, by Proposition 3.1, we see that  $J_m^{(-)}(X)$  is a polynomial with integral coefficients. Secondly, if  $m$  is the power of an irreducible polynomial  $P$ , the prime  $P$  is totally ramified in  $K_m/k$  (cf. [Ro 2]). Hence we obtain  $J_m^{(-)}(X) = 1$  in this case.

The next theorem is our main result of the present paper.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $m \in A$  be a monic polynomial. Then, we have*

$$\det D_m^{(-)}(X) = P_m^{(-)}(X)J_m^{(-)}(X). \quad (18)$$

*Proof.* For any  $\chi \in X_m$ , let the monic polynomial  $f_\chi$  be the conductor of  $\chi$ . Define  $\tilde{\chi}$  by

$$\tilde{\chi} = \chi \circ \pi_\chi$$

where  $\pi_\chi : (A/(m))^\times \rightarrow (A/(f_\chi))^\times$  is the natural homomorphism. Then, we have

$$L(s, \tilde{\chi}) = L(s, \chi) \cdot \prod_{Q|m} (1 - \chi(Q)q^{-s \deg Q}). \quad (19)$$

Fix a non-trivial character  $\lambda$  of  $\mathbb{F}_q^\times$ , and  $\psi \in X_m^-$  ( $\psi|_{\mathbb{F}_q^\times} = \lambda$ ). Then we have

$$\psi \cdot X_m^+ = \{\chi \in X_m^- \mid \chi|_{\mathbb{F}_q^\times} = \lambda\}.$$



For a character  $\chi \in X_m^-$  ( $\chi|_{\mathbb{F}_q^\times} = \lambda$ ), there is a unique character  $\phi \in X_m^+$  with  $\chi = \psi \cdot \phi$ . By the same argument as in Lemma 3 in [G-R],

$$\begin{aligned} L(s, \tilde{\chi}) &= \sum_{i=1}^{N_m} \tilde{\chi}(\alpha_i) q^{-\text{Deg}(\alpha_i)s} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{N_m} \tilde{\phi}(\alpha_i) \tilde{\psi}(\alpha_i) c^\lambda(\alpha_i) q^{-\text{Deg}(\alpha_i)s}. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $\tilde{\psi}(\alpha) c^\lambda(\alpha)$  and  $\text{Deg}$  are functions over  $\mathcal{R}_m$ , and  $\tilde{\phi}$  runs through all characters of  $\mathcal{R}_m$  when  $\phi$  runs through all characters of  $X_m^+$ . By the Frobenius determinant formula (cf. [Wa], Lemma 5.26),

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{\chi|_{\mathbb{F}_q^\times} = \lambda} L(s, \tilde{\chi}) &= \prod_{\phi \in X_m^+} \sum_{i=1}^{N_m} \tilde{\phi}(\alpha_i) \tilde{\psi}(\alpha_i) c^\lambda(\alpha_i) q^{-\text{Deg}(\alpha_i)s} \\ &= \det(\psi(\alpha_i \alpha_j^{-1}) c_{ij}^\lambda q^{-s d_{ij}})_{i,j=1,2,\dots,N_m} \\ &= \det D_m^{(\lambda)}(q^{-s}). \end{aligned}$$

From the decomposition

$$X_m^- = \bigcup_{\lambda \neq 1} \{\chi \in X_m \mid \chi|_{\mathbb{F}_q^\times} = \lambda\},$$

we have

$$\det D_m^{(-)}(q^{-s}) = \prod_{\chi \in X_m^-} L(s, \chi) \cdot J_m^{(-)}(q^{-s}).$$

By equation (12), we obtain

$$\det D_m^{(-)}(q^{-s}) = P_m^{(-)}(q^{-s}) J_m^{(-)}(q^{-s}). \quad (20)$$

Putting  $X = q^{-s}$ , we obtain the desired result.  $\square$

We give two remarks of this theorem. To begin with,  $P_m^{(-)}(X) = 1$  when  $m$  is the monic polynomial of degree 1. In fact, we calculate  $D_m^{(-)}(X) = 1$  in this case. Secondly, recall  $J_m^{(-)}(X) = 1$  when  $m$  is the power of an irreducible polynomial. Hence  $D_m^{(-)}(X) = P_m^{(-)}(X)$  in this case.

As a special case of our result, we obtain the following determinant formula for relative class numbers.

**Corollary 3.1.** (cf. [B-K], [A-C-J]) *Let  $h_m^-$  be the relative class number of  $K_m$ . Put  $f_Q^- = f_Q/f_Q^+$  and  $g_Q^- = g_Q/g_Q^+$ , then*

$$\prod_{\lambda \neq 1} \det(c_{ij}^\lambda)_{i,j=1,2,\dots,N_m} = W_m^- \cdot h_m^- \quad (21)$$

where

$$W_m^- = \begin{cases} \prod_{Q|m} (f_Q^-)^{g_Q^+} & \text{if } g_Q^- = 1 \text{ for every prime } Q \text{ dividing } m, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (22)$$

*Proof.* Putting  $X = 1$  in Theorem 3.1, we see that

$$\det D_m^{(-)}(1) = \prod_{\lambda \neq 1} \det(c_{ij}^\lambda), \quad (23)$$

and  $J_m^{(-)}(1) = W_m^-$  by Proposition 3.1. Since  $P_m^{(-)}(1) = h_m^-$ , we obtain the desired result.  $\square$

If  $m$  is the power of an irreducible polynomial, we see that  $W_m^- = 1$ . In other case, any prime in  $K_m^+$  except infinite primes is not ramified in  $K_m/K_m^+$ . Thus we see  $f_Q^- = q - 1$  for the prime  $Q$  with  $g_Q^- = 1$ .

## 4 Some coefficients of low degree terms of $\det D_m^{(-)}(X)$

In this section, we will calculate the coefficients of  $\det D_m^{(-)}(X)$  of degree 1, 2 by using the derivative of determinant.

Let  $m \in A$  be a monic polynomial. Noting  $\det D_m^{(-)}(0) = 1$ , we see that  $\det D_m^{(-)}(X)$  can be written by

$$\det D_m^{(-)}(X) = 1 + a_1 X + a_2 X^2 + \dots \quad (24)$$

where  $a_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots$ ) are integers.

**Proposition 4.1.** *Let  $m \in A$  be a monic polynomial of degree  $d$  ( $> 1$ ). Then, we have*

$$(1) \ a_1 = 0, \quad (25)$$

$$(2) \ a_2 = 0 \quad (\text{if } \deg m > 2), \quad (26)$$

$$(3) \ a_2 = \frac{N_m}{2} \{(q-1)(1-C_m) + N_m - 1\} \quad (\text{if } \deg m = 2), \quad (27)$$

where

$$C_m = \#\{i = 1, 2, \dots, N_m \mid L(\alpha_i^{-1}) = 1\}. \quad (28)$$

Here  $\#A$  is the number of elements of a set  $A$ .

By Proposition 3.1, we can obtain  $J_m^{(-)}(X)$ . Hence we can also calculate coefficients of low degree terms of  $P_m^{(-)}(X)$ .

To prove Proposition 3.1, we first state the next lemma, which can be shown by simple calculations.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $F(X) = (f_{ij}(X))_{i,j}$  be a matrix with one variable. If  $F(X)$  is twice differentiable and invertible at  $X = X_0$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad \left. \frac{d \det F(X)}{dX} \right|_{X=X_0} &= \det F(X_0) \cdot \operatorname{Tr} \left( F(X_0)^{-1} \frac{dF}{dX}(X_0) \right), \\ (2) \quad \left. \frac{d^2 \det F(X)}{dX^2} \right|_{X=X_0} &= \det F(X_0) \cdot \left\{ \operatorname{Tr} \left( F(X_0)^{-1} \frac{d^2 F}{dX^2}(X_0) \right) - \right. \\ &\quad \operatorname{Tr} \left( F(X_0)^{-1} \frac{dF}{dX}(X_0) F(X_0)^{-1} \frac{dF}{dX}(X_0) \right) + \\ &\quad \left. \operatorname{Tr} \left( F(X_0)^{-1} \frac{dF}{dX}(X_0) \right)^2 \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\operatorname{Tr}(A)$  is the trace of the matrix  $A$ .

Now we prove the proposition.

*Proof.* Let  $\lambda$  be a non-trivial character of  $\mathbb{F}_q^\times$ , and write

$$\det D_m^{(\lambda)}(X) = 1 + a_1^\lambda X + a_2^\lambda X^2 + \dots.$$

Notice that  $D_m^{(\lambda)}(0)$  is the unit matrix and

$$\frac{dD_m^{(\lambda)}}{dX}(0) = (l_{ij})_{i,j=1,2,\dots,N_m} \quad (29)$$

where

$$l_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } d_{ij} = 0 \text{ or } d_{ij} > 1, \\ c_{ij}^\lambda & \text{if } d_{ij} = 1. \end{cases} \quad (30)$$

By Lemma 4.1,  $a_1^\lambda = 0$  and

$$a_2^\lambda = -\frac{1}{2}\text{Tr}\left(\left(\frac{dD_m^{(\lambda)}}{dX}(0)\right)^2\right).$$

Thus we have assertion (1). If  $\deg m > 2$ , there is no combination  $(i, j)$  such that  $d_{ij} = 1$ , and  $d_{ji} = 1$ . Thus we have  $a_2^\lambda = 0$  in the case  $\deg m > 2$ . Since  $a_2 = \sum_{\lambda \neq 1} a_2^\lambda$ , we obtain assertions (2).

Next we prove the case when  $\deg m = 2$ . In this case, we have

$$l_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = j, \\ c_{ij}^\lambda & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases} \quad (31)$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\lambda \neq 1} a_2^\lambda &= \sum_{\lambda \neq 1} \left( \frac{N_m}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_m} \sum_{j=1}^{N_m} \lambda^{-1} (L(\alpha_i \alpha_j^{-1}) L(\alpha_j \alpha_i^{-1})) \right) \\ &= \frac{N_m(q-2)}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_m} \sum_{j=1}^{N_m} e_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$e_{ij} = \begin{cases} q-2 & \text{if } L(\alpha_i \alpha_j^{-1}) L(\alpha_j \alpha_i^{-1}) = 1, \\ -1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For any  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, N_m\}$ , there are  $\gamma_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}_q^\times$  and  $\beta_{ij} \in (A/(m))^\times$  with  $L(\beta_{ij}) = 1$  such that  $\alpha_i \alpha_j^{-1} = \gamma_{ij} \beta_{ij}$ . Then we have

$$L(\alpha_i \alpha_j^{-1}) L(\alpha_j \alpha_i^{-1}) = L(\beta_{ij}^{-1}).$$

Noting

$$\{\beta_{ij} \mid j = 1, 2, \dots, N_m\} = \{\alpha_j \mid j = 1, 2, \dots, N_m\},$$

we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N_m} e_{ij} = (q-1)C_m - N_m.$$

Thus we have the desired result.  $\square$

We consider the case when  $m = T^2 + aT + b \in A$ . If  $\alpha = T - c$  satisfies  $L(\alpha^{-1}) = 1$ , then  $c$  is a root of the equation  $T^2 + aT + b + 1$ . Thus we obtain  $C_m \leq 3$ .

## 5 Examples

In this section, we give some examples.

**Example 5.1.** For  $q = 3$  and  $m = T^2 + 1$ , we see that the extension degree of  $K_m/k$  is 8, and  $N_m = 4$ . Since the polynomial  $m$  is irreducible, we have  $\det D_m^{(-)}(X) = P_m^{(-)}(X)$ . Put

$$\alpha_1 = 1, \alpha_2 = T, \alpha_3 = T + 1, \alpha_4 = T + 2.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} P_m^{(-)}(X) &= \det D_m^{(-)}(X) \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -X & X & X \\ X & 1 & -X & X \\ X & -X & 1 & -X \\ X & X & X & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= 1 - 2X^2 + 9X^4. \end{aligned}$$

The relative class number  $h_m^-$  of  $K_m$  is  $P_m^{(-)}(1) = 8$ .

**Example 5.2.** For  $q = 3$  and  $m = T^3 + T^2$ , we see that the extension degree of  $K_m/k$  is 12, and  $N_m = 6$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 &= 1, \alpha_2 = T^2 + 2T + 2, \alpha_3 = T^2 + T + 1, \\ \alpha_4 &= T + 2, \alpha_5 = T^2 + 1, \alpha_6 = T^2 + T + 2. \end{aligned}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \det D_m^{(-)}(X) &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & X & -X^2 & X^2 & X^2 & -X^2 \\ X^2 & 1 & -X^2 & -X^2 & -X^2 & -X \\ X^2 & X^2 & 1 & X & -X^2 & X^2 \\ X & X^2 & X^2 & 1 & X^2 & X^2 \\ X^2 & X^2 & -X & -X^2 & 1 & X^2 \\ X^2 & -X^2 & -X^2 & X^2 & X & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= 1 - 6X^3 - 3X^4 - 6X^5 + 23X^6 + 30X^7 + 6X^8 - 18X^9 - 27X^{10}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$J_m^{(-)}(X) = 1 + X - X^3 - X^4.$$

Thus we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P_m^{(-)}(X) &= \frac{\det D_m^{(-)}(X)}{J_m^{(-)}(X)} \\ &= 1 - X + X^2 - 6X^3 + 3X^4 - 9X^5 + 27X^6. \end{aligned}$$

The relative class number  $h_m^-$  of  $K_m$  is  $P_m^{(-)}(1) = 16$ .

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